

REMARKS

This is submitted as a full and complete response to the outstanding Official Letter. The Examiner has required an election grouping the claims as Group I, claims 1-8 drawn to a method and Group II, claims 9-15 drawn to an apparatus. Furthermore, the Examiner has stated that in Group I there are two species, namely the species represented by claims 2 and 3 or 4 and 5. The applicant herewith elects to continue prosecution on the species of claims 2 and 3 and therefore elects the claims of Group I along with the species of 2 and 3. Consequently generic claims 1 and 6-8 are to be prosecuted along with the species of claims 2 and 3. This election is made without traverse.

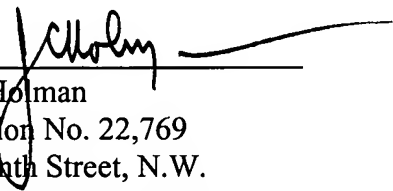
It is understood that if generic or subgeneric claims are found allowable that the non-elected claims depend from such non-elected species will also be found allowable in this application.

Early and favorable action of the merits of the claims is courteously awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By _____


John C. Holman
Registration No. 22,769
400 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 638-6666

I.D.: JCH/dls
Folio: P67633US0
Date: May 13, 2004